

the Eighth Five Year Plan as compared to the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantum of power generated against the target set therefor during the Eighth Five Year Plan alongwith the reasons of such shortfall, if any;

(d) whether the Government have made the mid term appraisal of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(e) if so, the reasons of the failure of the said plan in the power sector; and

(f) the measures contemplated for not repeating such failure in the Ninth Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The total power generated during the 8th Plan and 7th Plan are 1750.5 billion units and 1025.8 billion units respectively.

(c) The total power generated during the Eighth Five Year Plan was 1750.5 Billion Units. A five year plan only gives capacity addition targets and generation target for terminal year and not five years.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) According to the Mid Term Appraisal of Eighth Five Year Plan, the main reasons for shortfall in the target of capacity addition were constraints of resources, law and order problems, problems related to externally aided projects, deficiencies in project management and in the case of private sector the delay in decision making by the State Governments.

(f) For the Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan brought out by the Planning Commission the following strategy has been suggested for achieving the desired results in the power sector :

1. Speedy completion of the on-going and approved power projects; taking steps for new projects;
2. Transparency in selection of private parties and speedy decision making for enlisting private sector participation in a significant manner;
3. Providing adequate outlets for hydel power sector for completion of on-going projects within shortest possible time; cost benefit analysis on the relative

advantage of mega project versus small project together with environmental considerations in selection of new projects; considering provisions of fiscal incentives and concessions enlisting the private sector for hydro projects; State Governments to ensure full investigations of hydro projects before they are offered to private parties

4. Adequate attention to new capacity addition of nuclear power;

5. Promotion to domestic manufacturing capability for power equipment.

Survey for Tellicherry-Mysore Railway Line

350. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the survey work on Tellicherry-Mysore railway line has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which the survey is likely to be completed;

(d) whether the Government of Kerala has given any representation to include above railway line in the Government projects on priority basis; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The field work of the survey has been nearly completed and the report is under preparation. The report is now likely to be received by 30.9.97. The difficult terrain encountered has been the reason for delay of the report.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Action could be taken after the survey is completed.

Payment to Hindustan Cable Ltd.

351. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications (DOT) is holding back payments to Hindustan Cable Ltd.;

(b) if so, the total amount payable by the DOT to the Hindustan Cable Ltd. (HCL) as on 30.6.1997 and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether HCL is starved of orders from DOT; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the nature and extent of the held up orders ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Barring orders placed in the current years there is no admissible claim pending.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Introduction of Passenger Trains

352. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are considering to fulfil the demand of the people of North-Eastern States by introducing the passenger trains from different parts of North-Eastern States to Calcutta;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to run Saraighat Express daily as a first step; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) Provision of additional services is a continuous process on Indian Railways subject to the availability of resources, operational feasibility and traffic justification. During 1997-98 extension of 5659/5660 Kamrup Express to Dibrugarh and extension of 6511/6512 Bangalore-Howrah weekly Express to Guwahati will provide additional services from the North-Eastern States to Calcutta. There is, however, no proposal to run Saraighat Express as a daily train.

Construction of Fly Overs

353. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since taken any steps to increase the speed of the trains between Howrah and Bandel and between Howrah and Kharagpur by constructing few fly-overs and removing the rail gates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress, made in this regard, so far ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Three busy level crossings are sanctioned for replacement with Road Over Bridges/Road Under Bridges. In addition the State Government has been asked to sponsor proposals on two busy level crossings i.e. Bagnan and Ramrajatala.

(c)(i) Road Under Bridge at Konnagar sanctioned in 1995-96 has progressed upto 50%.

(ii) Road Over Bridge at Liluah sanctioned in 1988-89 but the State Govt. has not fulfilled the conditions to take up the work.

(iii) Road Over Bridge at Maurigram sanctioned during 1997-98. The State Govt. is yet to confirm site to enable Railway to start the work.

Wages to E.D. Employees

354. SHRI A. SAMPATH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Posts had issued orders on November 27, 1996 condoning the period of absence from October 23, 1996 to October 29, 1996 of Postal Employees including the Extra-Departmental Employees;

(b) whether the Departmental Employees were paid the wages after treating the period of absence as on leave;

(c) whether in spite of the period of absence having been condoned, the extra-departmental employees have been denied wages for the period of absence;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether representations have been received for payment of wages for the period of absence to the extra-departmental employees; and

(f) if so, whether the Government are favourably considering the request for payment of wages for the period of absence to the extra-departmental employees ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.